



Welcome to Mar Vista Home of the Sea Lions



Welcome Back

Rich Determan, Principal
Meghan Green, Academic Coordinator
Barbara Di Puma, School Office Manager

School News:

Dear Mar Vista Families,
Welcome to the 2017-18 school year at Mar Vista. I hope you had a fun and restful summer. I am excited to have you back and welcome all new students. The intent of this letter is to welcome you to the Mar Vista family. We consider ourselves a family because we have a common interest...giving your child the best possible education and accomplishing that by having home and school work together. Our faculty of dedicated and distinguished teachers and staff are looking forward to seeing our returning parents and students, as well as meeting new families who have moved to the neighborhood.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Friday Aug. 25 Annual Back to School BBQ, sponsored by MVP's Begins at 5:00
- ◆ Aug. 29 Back to School. Primary Grades 5:30 to 7.
- ◆ Aug. 31 Back to School Intermediate Grades. 5:30 to 7.
- ◆ Sept. 4 Labor Day NO SCHOOL
- ◆ Sept. 6 Disaster Drill (Fire Drill)
- ◆ Sept. 12 SSC 4:30-5:30 Library
- ◆ Sept. 12 MVP Mtg. 6:00-7:30 Lib.
- ◆ Sept. 13 Spirit Day. PJ Dress-up.
- ◆ Sept. 22 School Pictures.
- ◆ Sept. 27 Tropical/Hawaii Day.

This is a reminder of some of our policies that parents often have questions about:

Parents, it is critical that you understand and acknowledge that students can **ONLY** be released to adults who are listed on the child's "Emergency Card." Please make sure to update your information on the "Emergency Card" expediently if changes occur.

- The first day of school classroom assignments are considered to be firm. Remember, placement was carefully selected for your child by the principal and the grade level team of teachers. Students' attitudes toward their teachers and school are highly influenced by the attitudes of their parents. We can all provide your children and our students with a successful beginning of the school year by responding to their classroom assignments with positive enthusiasm.
- Kinder through Third grade, class size limit is 24. Students might have to be transferred to another class if we exceed that number. We will do everything possible to make this transition for the student as smooth as possible.

MVP (Mar Vista Parents): We have a very dedicated and enthusiastic parent association that goes above and beyond to support our educational programs and enhance student education. This school year Vicki Swertfager is the MVP President; she will be encouraging your participation as an MVP member. There will be information available at "Back to School Night" on ways you can help serve the students at Mar Vista.

Welcome to our new staff members:

- **Meghan Green**, Academic Coordinator, is now 100% at Mar Vista
- **Allison Dunham** moved from 1/2 combo teacher to fourth grade
- **Amy Ryan** is our new 5th grade teacher, she taught at Ann Soldo for the past 8 years.
- **Jennifer Walker** moved from 6th grade to first grade.
- **David Manier** has rejoined our Mar Vista family after spending the last 3 years with the new teacher project. David is teaching first grade.



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New Modular Classrooms/Student Bathrooms and Fire System at Mar Vista. The original portables were installed in 1988. Student bathrooms were modernization for the first time since 1965. Our fire alarm system has also been brought up to 2017 code. These projects was paid for by Measure L funds. More projects are planned for next summer.

Tips for a Successful School Year

How you start the school year can determine how well the rest of the year will go. Here is how to make sure your child gets off to a great start this year:

- Review school safety. Talk to your child about the importance of following school rules. The Code of Conduct at Mar Vista School is **Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be Responsible**.
- Get to know your child's teacher. When parents and teachers are on the same team, kids do better in school. Once you've met face to face, you'll find it easier to ask questions or share a concern about your child.
- Set goals. Students who do best in school have both short and long term goals. In order to succeed, your child needs goals to keep them on the right track.
- Settle into a routine. Kids thrive on predictability. Have a regular time for homework. Set and stick to a regular bedtime. Plan a morning routine that gets everyone out the door on time.
- Don't over schedule your child. Give them time to unwind after school.
- Be interested in your child's schoolwork. Ask them about school every day.

Parking and Traffic In and Out of School

We cannot stress it enough, plan to have your child(ren) to school by 7:50am every day. This will ensure that they will be in class on time and help prevent you from being stuck in the morning traffic. Also please remember never to leave your vehicle unattended in the drop off/pick up area at any time. Always pull your vehicle forward when in the drop off/pick up zone. If you wish to walk your child(ren) to class, please park your vehicle in one of the designated parking areas. It is ok to park in the short term parking and buses area-double parking is permitted in this area while you walk your child(ren) into the school. Do not double park behind handicap parking at the end as this will block the flow of traffic.

When picking up in the afternoon, stay left in the express pick-up lane when entering the school. The right hand side is for the buses and parking only. Also, when pulling into the school, it is imperative that we do not block access for the buses.

Unfortunately, our parking lot was not the best design. We need to be patient with each other and plan accordingly. Let's be good role models for our children. We are all in this together.

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Retired but not forgotten



Mar Vista International Team representing the country of Ireland



Happy Summer Birthdays!



Aptos Fourth of July Parade